

Remarks

Claims 480-518 are presently pending in the subject application.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein and in Applicants' Reply dated October 16, 2006.

The title of the invention has been amended to more properly reflect the subject matter of the currently pending claims.

Claim 480 has been amended to make a grammatical change and to remove reference to a "double-stranded complex" comprising the probe and target nucleic acid sequence, as this aspect of the claimed invention is believed to be covered by the claim language reciting that the complex comprises a single-stranded form of the probe.

Claim 498 has been amended to depend from claim 480 only.

Claims 499-518 are new and relate to reaction mixtures containing, *inter alia*, one or more amplification oligonucleotides (e.g., primer, promoter-primer or splice template) and a probe molecule in accordance with the present invention. Claim 500 recites that the one or more amplification oligonucleotides and the probe are present in the reaction mixture when the amplification reaction is initiated. Claims 501-518 correspond to previously pending claims 481-498. The new claims are supported by the specification *passim*.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein and in Applicants' Reply dated October 16, 2006, Applicants submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

FURTHER REPLY
Date: November 1, 2006

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No fees are believed due in connection with this Further Reply. If Applicants are mistaken, then please charge any amounts due to Deposit Account No. 07-0835 in the name of Gen-Probe Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,

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